

**SPECIAL ORDERS SESSION
COUNTY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2000**

Chairman Joseph Maehl called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, Fourth Floor, Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Supervisors were present: Kollath, Barker, Griesbach, Savas, Maehl, Koziczkowski, Klitzke, Widener, Lauson, Albrecht, Pech, Green, Reilly, Sundquist, Wingren, King, Norton, Hert, Nielsen, Robl, Eichman, Kline, Crowley, Kramer, Schaidler, Finch, Spanbauer, Sievert, Arne, Diakoff, Brennand, Egan, Rengstorf, Rankin, Leschke, Madison, O'Brien and Metzsig.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to adopt the agenda. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.

A letter was read from former Supervisor Jacquelyn Wagner regarding former Supervisor John Planalp and his pending surgery.

A letter was read from Senator Robert Welch acknowledging receipt of Winnebago County's Resolution No. 369-22000, "Oppose Potential Legislation Limiting County Ownership and Operation of Telecommunications Utility Equipment." He will take the Board's position into consideration when he votes on this issue.

A letter was read from Representative Gregg Underheim acknowledging receipt of Winnebago County's Resolution Nos. 394-32000, "Oppose Any Effort of Wisconsin Central Railroad to Acquire Wiowash Trail" and 408-32000, "Support Senate Substitute Amendment #1 to 1999 Senate Bill 91." He will take the board's positions into consideration when and if these issues come to the Assembly.

WCA Seminar, "Parliamentary Procedure and Open Meeting Laws," June 26, Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.

S. Ertmer encouraged those Supervisors who have not had their pictures taken for inclusion in the County Directory, make an appointment with the photographer as soon as possible.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Supervisor Pech asked that Supervisors who attend seminars and conferences make a report to the full County Board. He stated that it is important that the information they gain at these events is shared with the public and the entire County Board.

Supervisor Barker reported that on June 29th the Legislative Committee will be addressing the issue of high speed rail service in the County and making a recommendation on the same to the full County Board at their next meeting.

Supervisor Barker stated that she is having copies made of an excellent handout entitled, "Buying or Living in the Country—Have you thought about..." It will be included in the June 20th Board packet.

Supervisor Nielsen stated that he had received a number of phone calls about a recent child abuse incident that occurred in Winnebago County and was reported in the Oshkosh Northwestern. Supervisor Nielsen questioned who or what agency is ultimately responsible for handling this type of situation or does it become a County Board issue.

Supervisor Nielsen also expressed his opposition to the construction of a new theater on the UW-Fox Valley campus. He further reported that he will not attend the NACo Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Supervisor Albrecht reported that the June 8th airport tour, which is being sponsored by the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce, has been re-scheduled to June 22.

In response to Supervisor Nielsen's question about the child abuse case, Supervisor Rengstorf stated that a meeting was held with the Human Services Board and Director Dennis Wendt. At that meeting, he was told that the people who called in about the abused child's situation, would not give any names or addresses, so the agency did not know where to go. Supervisor Rengstorf further stated that it was because of the alert police officer who was in the vicinity that the child was rescued.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Maehl stated that the Supervisors who attend NACo conferences serve on a variety of NACo's national committees. He also stated that the County benefits financially from their attendance at national conferences. Chairman Maehl did agree that reports should be made by conference attendees to the full County Board.

PUBLIC HEARING

No one addressed the Board.

Motion by Supervisor Schaidler and seconded to reconsider Ordinance No. 33-52000, "Amend Section 17.32(2)(a), General Code of Winnebago County (Membership of the Board of Adjustment.) CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

**RECONSIDERATION OF
ORDINANCE NO. 33-52000: Amend Section 17.32(2)(a), General Code of Winnebago County
(Membership of the Board of Adjustment)**

WHEREAS, Section 17.32(2)(a), the General Code of Winnebago County provides that the Board of Adjustment shall consist of five citizen members; and

WHEREAS, Section 59.694(2)(bm), Statutes, provides that the Chairperson of the County Board may appoint, for staggered 3 year terms, two alternate members of the Board of Adjustment who are subject to the approval of the County Board. Annually, the Chairperson of the County Board shall designate one of the alternate members as the first alternate and the other as the second alternate. The first alternate shall act, with full power, only when a member of the Board of Adjustment refuses to vote because of a conflict of interest or when a member is absent. The second alternate shall act only when the first alternate refuses to vote because of a conflict of interest or is absent, or if more than one member of the Board of Adjustment refuses to vote because of a conflict of interest or is absent; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 59.17(2), Wisconsin Statutes, appointments to boards or commissions where appointments are required and where the statutes provide that the appointments are made by the County Board or by the Chairperson of the County Board shall be made by the County Executive in counties with the County Executive; and

WHEREAS, the need presently exists because of frequent absences by members of the Board of Adjustment and as a result of scheduling difficulties, to amend Winnebago County's present ordinance so as to provide for the appointment of two alternate members of the Board of Adjustment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Winnebago does ordain as follows:

That Section 17.32(2)(a) of the General Code of Winnebago County shall be amended to read as follows:

17.32 BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.

(2) MEMBERSHIP. The membership of the Board of Adjustment shall consist of the following:

(a) The Board of Adjustment shall consist of five citizen members and two alternate members. All members of the Board of Adjustment must be from the unincorporated areas of Winnebago County. No two members of the Board of Adjustment may be from the same township. All members shall have a term of three (3) years except initially the term of one citizen member shall commence with the date of appointment and confirmation by the County Board and end the third Tuesday in April 1981; the term of two citizen members shall commence with appointment and confirmation by the County Board and end the third Tuesday in April, 1982; and the term of two citizen members shall commence with appointment and confirmation by the County Board and end the third Tuesday in April, 1983. The term of one (1) alternate citizen member shall commence with the date of appointment and confirmation by the County Board and shall end the third

Tuesday in April, 2002; and the term of the other alternate citizen member shall commence with the date of appointment and confirmation by the County Board and end the third Tuesday of April, 2003. Thereafter, all terms shall be three (3) years. Annually, the County Executive shall designate one of the alternate members as the first alternate and the other as second alternate. The first alternate shall act, with full power, only when a member of the Board of Adjustment refuses to vote because of a conflict of interest or when a member is absent. The second alternate shall act only when the first alternate refuses to vote because of conflict of interest or is absent, or if more than one member of the Board of Adjustment refuses to vote because of a conflict of interest or is absent. All members of the Board of Adjustment shall be appointed by the County Executive subject to confirmation by the County Board. The Board shall function as to the Board of Adjustment with such duties as are outlined in Section 59.694, Wisconsin Statutes.

BE IT ORDAINED, that the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors as of December 31, 2000, the secretary of the Board of Adjustment will receive no additional compensation or per diem for taking minutes for the Board of Adjustment.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Winnebago that said ordinance shall take effect as of April 18, 2000.

Submitted by:
PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Schaidler and seconded to refer back to the Planning & Zoning Committee.
CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

ADVOCAP – Michael Bonertz, Executive Director

Supervisor Kollath stated that ADVOCAP is a community action agency that serves the three counties of Winnebago, Fond du Lac and Green Lake. He encouraged the Board to read ADVOCAP's 1999 annual report that was placed on their desks. Supervisor Kollath then introduced Mr. Bonertz.

Mr. Bonertz explained that, in addition to being a community action agency, ADVOCAP is also a private, not-for-profit corporation. Their mission is to create opportunities for individuals, as well as communities, to reduce poverty.

In 1966, the Fond du Lac County Board of Supervisors created ADVOCAP. In 1972 and 1996 respectively, Winnebago County and Green Lake County took action to have ADVOCAP serve as their community action agency.

Mr. Bonertz explained that there are over 1,000 community action agencies nationwide and 16 in the State of Wisconsin. Most of these agencies are not-for-profit organizations and share a common goal of trying to help people develop themselves so they can be self-sufficient.

Mr. Bonertz explained that the main thing that defines a community action agency is the make up of its board of directors. It has three equal parts – elected government officials, community representatives and low-income people.

Mr. Bonertz went through the various programs provided by ADVOCAP, such as:

- Asset-Building Choices
- Business Development
- Community Employment Program
- Community Services
- Foster Grandparents
- Head Start for Children and Families
- Literacy Services
- Rental Property
- Refugee Services
- Senior Nutrition
- Volunteer Services
- Weatherization

Mr. Bonertz stated that because of Winnebago County's financial support and its representation on the ADVOCAP Board of Directors, ADVOCAP has been able to create opportunities to reduce poverty in

Winnebago County.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM – WISCONSIN COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

Mark O'Connell, Chief of Staff, and Craig Thompson, Legislative Director, of the Wisconsin Counties Association, addressed the Board on the Association's position on campaign finance reform.

Mr. O'Connell stated that campaign finance reform has only recently become a county issue. He explained that the large amount of special interest money that is being used in state campaigns makes campaign finance reform an important issue for counties. The money from special interest groups diverts the legislators' attention to their special interests at the expense of other issues that affect county and local governments.

Mr. O'Connell stated that in 1999 Senator Mike Ellis introduced a campaign finance reform plan to the legislature that he also asked the WCA to support. While the WCA Board of Directors did not officially support the specifics of a campaign finance reform plan, they did take the position that they are in support of campaign finance reform.

Mr. O'Connell stated that because campaign finance reform has become such a bi-partisan issue, it is often debated, but never acted upon. He explained that the lack of action on campaign finance reform is because the legislature and others feel that the general public does not see campaign finance reform as an important issue.

Mr. O'Connell reported that the WCA agrees that the public needs to be heard on this issue and passed a motion unanimously on March 17 to support, encourage and recommend that each county place an advisory referendum on the November ballot asking if they feel campaign finance reform is necessary. Mr. O'Connell stated that in the very near future, each county will be receiving a packet of information from WCA asking them to consider placing this advisory referendum on their ballot.

Mr. Thompson explained that the WCA has debated the specific components of the referendum question and they feel that the question must be very general.

Mr. O'Connell explained that the issue of unfunded state mandates has also contributed to the WCA's involvement in the campaign finance reform issue.

EMERGENCY SIRENS – ACTIVATION MONITORING DON WILMOT, EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT DIRECTOR

Supervisor Griesbach explained that there have been problems with Winnebago County's emergency sirens for some time. At one point last year, there were 18 sirens that were not operating.

Supervisor Griesbach told the Board that David Schmidt, County Planner, has been designated as the Deputy Emergency Government Director and will act in Don Wilmot's place when he is on vacation. Supervisor Griesbach also stated that there will be deputy directors from various areas in the county.

Don Wilmot stated that his department's number one priority at this time is the sirens. Currently there are 43 sirens placed throughout the county. Their locations are being reviewed and some will most likely be relocated.

Mr. Wilmot explained that the current siren system is activated at the 911 Center and in emergency situations from the mobile command center. It does not allow you to monitor individual sirens to see if they are operating.

Mr. Wilmot stated that the activation monitoring system he is proposing is a two-way system that communicates back to the operator whether each siren is operating. It allows them to monitor and test each siren site individually. Sites can also be tested silently. If a site is not operating, the system states what is wrong. Mr. Wilmot stated that the system will also indicate potential weaknesses and problems at the siren sites.

With this system, the sirens can be tested individually or by zone. It will also have different tones for different types of emergencies, such as tornadoes, chemical spills, etc.

The costs associated with this project would be an initial \$200,000 to purchase the system, with an annual operating cost of approximately \$45,500.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER UPDATE – SHERIFF MICHAEL BROOKS

Sheriff Brooks reported to the Board that he will be bidding out the jail's food service in 2001. He feels that by bidding out the food service, the County will save in excess of \$100,000. Sheriff Brooks feels that these savings would quickly offset the costs of the kitchen in the new facility, as well as the staffing costs. He explained that because of the size of his department's budget, any percentage of savings he makes has a tremendous impact on the county's tax levy.

Sheriff Brooks stated that the size of the new jail facility will need to be decided soon. It is being debated whether it should be a 300-320 or a 380-400 bed facility. The size of the core areas is also being debated. The core areas are the laundry, kitchen, property room and the visiting area. Sheriff Brooks stated that he feels they need to base the size of these core areas on a 500-bed facility, allowing for further future expansions.

Sheriff Brooks explained that the way prisoners are processed and housed are two of the major things being discussed and decided. Possible housing choices include single or double wet or single or double dry cells or an open bay or dormitory style facility. They need to determine the staffing requirements for each of these options—how many prisoners can an officer supervise.

Sheriff Brooks stated that they will be bringing to the committee a recommendation for an open bay/dormitory style pod for the direct supervision population and single wet cells for the administrative segregation and maximum classified prisoners. Sheriff Brooks explained that the open bay/dormitory style pods are less costly and allow for better management of the prisoners. Sheriff Brooks explained that at this time they have not determined the number of prisoners per pod or the number of pods that will be needed.

Sheriff Brooks explained that the size of the facility should be determined by how far into the future the County wants to plan. The average population figures need to be studied and the size of the facility based on future jail populations. Sheriff Brooks stated that his current recommendation is to build a 300-320 bed facility, but that could change when the pod size is determined.

Sheriff Brooks stated that the cost of the project won't be known until the project has been bid out. He also encouraged the Board not lock them into a specific cost for this project. They want to be able to look at life cycle costs—construct a facility that may cost more initially, but will save money in the long run. Sheriff Brooks said that their goal is to build a facility that is efficient, effective and low-staffed and that meets their operational needs.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to adjourn until June 20 at 6:00 p.m. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk

State of Wisconsin)
County of Winnebago)ss

I, Susan T. Ertmer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors for their Special Orders Session held June 6, 2000.

Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk